



Horses Helping Humans submission of tasks – what to look for

Doing the tasks

General

- No voice commands / cues / clicking / clucking noises – it is about body language and energy projection.
- Always operating with a neutral body language – i.e. feet shoulder width apart, weight on heels, central line of gravity, relaxed state, head held high, focused and open body language.

1. Friendly

- Can rub all over and horse stays relaxed and adrenaline down.

2. Back up / call in:

- Phase 1 backup.
- Stop with weight on hind quarters (not forequarters).
- Draw line on ground and ensure horse stops just prior when calling in.
- When calling in, step FORWARD to stop, NOT backwards.

3. Leading

- There is a good partnership between horse and human.
- Horse leaves calmly on suggestion only.
- Breath out to stop, and weight rolls back onto the hind quarters.
- Figure of eight, no rushing and the facilitator remains in the driving space.

4. Circling

- Back up to the end of the rope before circling.
- Leave at a walk, with low head carriage and bending around circle.
- Rump NOT facing into the middle of the circle, in any way, at any time.
- Can transition from walk to trot with adrenaline down and, ideally, with only a suggestion.
- Can transition from trot to walk with breath only.
- Disengage to a stop from walk only, NOT from a trot.
- When disengaging, the horse is to stay on the outside of the circle, facing in.
- Human does not step backwards (unless specifically calling the horse in), step forwards only, as if selling your shoes.



5. **Jumping**

- Human positions themselves approximately 1m from end of jump, and only turns on a dime no walking / drifting around in a circle with the horse – this is NOT the circling task.
- Walk over the jump the first time, transition up to a trot, jump the jump for the second time at a trot calmly, calmly transition back down to a walk and then a stop, all with adrenaline down.
- Please be sure to show your horse/pony completing the jumping task in both directions.

6. **Backing through 'I' shape on ground:**

- Focus, focus, focus!!! Use those laser beams!
- Driving the horse backwards (like in the backup task), not pushing via direct physical touch or ultra-short rope.